

Howland Wood - Curatorial

Jones, John Frederick
[Jamestown, NY]

1926-1937

JONES, JOHN, F.

TELEPHONE VANDERBILT 6000



THE COMMODORE

FORTY-SECOND STREET AND LEXINGTON AVENUE
GRAND CENTRAL TERMINAL
PERSHING SQUARE

NEW YORK

JOHN MC E. BOWMAN
PRESIDENT
GEORGE W. SWEENEY
VICE PRES & MGR.

Sat. P.M.

Aug. 21st 1926

My Dear Mr. Wood:

I ran up
to the Orientalia book-store, this
A.M., - for a few moments.

They have a wonderful stock
of Far-East books on all subjects,
but only few coin-books. - left.

Had a lot of Japanese coin-
-books, - but all sold now except
the 4 vols. 1913 + 1914 of The Num.
+ Philatelic Journal of Japan



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2,

by H. A. Ramsden, - they ask \$8.50
for lot, - also have Korean Coins
Charms + Amulets by H. A. Ramsden
1910 @ \$3.00, and the Stewart
Lockhart coln. of Chinese Copper
coins by Kelly + Walsh Ltd, 1915,
Shanghai, - price \$12.00 (mostly
coins of North China).

I bot "Coins of Japan" by
Neil Gordon Munro, Yokohama, 1904,
for \$4.50 - had been priced @ \$7.50 and



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3.

was glad to get it, - as I guess
they were glad to sell it, - no
call for such books was told,

And tell it not in NY,

I picked up of silver train pcs.
the large split pc. that you showed
in your coln, - a small one, and
the bullet-shaped tical + 2 fractions,
all 5 for \$2⁵⁰, How's that old
Top? It was an accident, - they
bot them with a lot of vases
etc, and claimed cost them \$2⁵⁰



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4,

only pcs in the shop.

I gave Miss P. - your name
and address for circulars, and
no doubt she will list you
any coin books that come in.

Am not sure whether I can
see you again this trip, but
you will hear from me later,
Many thanks for all favors,
and Best wishes - Sincerely

John F. Jones

J.F.J. - # 1113 N. Main St,
Jamestown, N.Y.

* 1113 N. Main St.

Jamestown, N.Y. - Feby 22nd 1937.

Mr. Howland Wood,

Cor. 156th St. & Broadway, - N.Y. City.

My Dear Mr. Wood:

Greetings, old Top! greetings, after all these years, - would like to spend a week with you, - just to talk and see coins which you know so well.

I am slated for a paper on the U.S. encased stamps, before our club next month, and have looked thru the early Numismatists for something new to tell the boys, but can't find much.

Found A. R. Frey's list of auction-sales in 1901 & '2 in the May & June 1902 issue, - also Ben Green's paper in Oct. 1905, and I have sent to the U.S. Patent Office for a copy of Patent No. 1627 to cover same, - also have the list of firms before me in Scott's Copper cata. of 1893.

Still, like Sam Neal, - I am not satisfied, - maybe you can tell me?

Who was John Gault of Boston ^{NY} and his business?
Is there any record of the number of those pcs issued?
What has become of the large no. offered in earlier days?
Who is the New Jersey collector with largest collection?
Are there any others?
Anything of real interest in these pcs to relate?

Am enclosing rubbings of few late pgs which I cannot locate, - with stamped envelope for reply. Will appreciate very much any suggestions of interest, - or tell me where it can be found.

Many thanks for above and my kindest regards to you and Mr. Newell, Hope to see you both again some day.

Very Sincerely

John F. Jones

March 10, 1937

Mr. John F. Jones,
1113 N. Main St.,
Jamestown, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Jones:

Please pardon me for not answering your letter sooner. The fact of the matter is that I have been so tied up since my assistant died that my correspondence has gotten ahead of me. I suppose by this time you have given your talk.

I really know nothing of John Gault. He was of New York, not Boston, and I spent some time this morning seeing if I could find anything about him, but everybody who has written up the encased postage stamps says nothing about him. I very much doubt if there is any record of the number he struck or anything else of his pieces.

I understand that nothing higher than the 30¢ piece was really used. One or two 90's are known but only in sample cases and without any name of firm on the back. When a 90¢ does show up with a name on the back, it has generally been substituted in after years.

I do not know why you do not see so many today. Most of them have apparently been absorbed in collections and are staying there. I do not even know the name of any large collectors of these nor the name of the Jersey collector. As a matter of fact, these encased stamps are something that I have never paid much attention to.

Now for your rubbings. All of the pieces you show rubbings of are simply talismen. None of them are coins or ever passed for coins. They are simply talismen, sold in the bazaars, for the most part, in northern India. I do know this - that many of the bazaar merchants have worked them off on gullible tourists as coins and those travellers to India have brought them back thinking they had rare medieval pieces. As far as I know they are making them today.

It is a long time since I have seen you and I trust that you will pay us a visit whenever you are in this neck of the woods.

Very truly yours,

HW ks

Curator

* 1113 N. Main St.

Jamestown, N.Y. - Mar. 23rd 1937.

Mr. Howland Wood,

Cor. Broadway + 156th St. - N.Y. City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Thanks, - many of them for your kind
reply of Mar. 10th, relative to encased Postage-stamps.

Sorry to have taken any of your time.

Yes, I delivered my paper the evening of same day,
and it seemed O.K. to the Club, - altho it was not
complete to my own notion.

I want to correct ~~some~~ you on the 90 cent,
Right, - it was issued by J. Gault, patentee, and had no
other adv. on back. In the Dr. James coln,
gift to the Buffalo Historical Society are 92 encased
stamps of diff. firms + values 1¢ to 90¢. It has three
(3) specimens of the 90¢, - evidently diff. shades of blue
in the stamps.

I have not seen this coln.
in over 30 years, - the Society had a small theft one
night, and most of Dr. James coln. is now + has been
for years, stored in the basement of the old Pan-American
Build. - which they occupy.

I spent hours
some years ago with the Curator + his Asst to get
a proper exhibit of this coln. - but it was time wasted.

I went after Gilroy + the Bufa Coin Club, - they tried,
but got nowhere. Dr. James about 50 years ago

2. - H. H.

spent \$22,000 on the collection, and it made Dr. Wright's eyes bulge when I took him there, to see this splendid lot of incased stamps, - the nearly complete Jackson tokens, - the English Ponder series, - the U.S. political cards & tokens of all campaigns from 1828 to date, etc. all in mint condition, - not to mention full series of regular U.S. copper cents & $\frac{1}{2}$ cents, up to the dollars.

The Society can't show something worth while, - but they do clutter up their rooms & space with a lot of junk, - worn & holed, - not worth looking at.

I had a full set of values including the 90 cent, - which was perfect & untampered, - sold young Frossard some 12 or 15 of lower values, and the balance went to Virgil M. Brand of Chicago, many years ago.

Thanks for information on rubbings, - I could not make head or tail of those pcs and it did not occur to me that they were talismen issued for sale purpose.

My time was limited on last few trips to N.Y., and could not get out to see you, - but hope to make it again some day.

3. H. H.

Special

About two or three months ago, T. Jas. Clarke said correspondents complained to him, that not enough coin-articles were appearing in the Numismatist, - so to help out, I told him to publish my paper on the Commemorative coins written for our Club two years ago, provided Duffield thought it worth while. - you see result, - start appears in March issue.

Then I wrote an article on the North American token 1781, - (a certain catalogue had said it was issued by Bank of North America)

Now Duffield wants to publish this in May issue and asked me to send him a nice specimen to photograph for the article. - He has no fit piece

I sold most of my U.S. colonials to T. Jas C. some years ago, and phoned him for my old piece to send down.

Now after hunting for a week, - he admits he cannot find it, - which is not surprising.

X I am wondering if you could photograph both sides of your best piece and send him promptly. (to Duffield.)

Will gladly pay all the expense of same, and it will be fully appreciated by us all. Send me bill & will remit.

Thanking you and with kindest regards, I am

Very Sincerely

John F. Jones

Sorry to impose on your good nature, no other course.

Mar. 31, 1937

Mr. John F. Jones,
1113 N. Main St.,
Jamestown, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Jones:

Your letter came the other day. What you say in it more than convinces me that coins should not be left to places where they cannot be adequately looked after or appreciated. Too many collections have been lost, stolen or made inaccessible by being left to Histocial Societies, Art Museums and Libraries where they have no one who is interested in coins.

I have dug out our North American token and in a few days will photograph it and send it to Duffield. It really would not pay to mix up the chemicals and make a negative of obverse and reverse unless we are doing other things. I can often work single things in on a negative when we have other things to photograph.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

1113 N. Main St.

Jamestown N.Y. Apr. 8th 1937.

Mr. Howland Wood.

Broadway at 156th St. - N.Y. City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Replying to yours of Mar. 31st.

Yes, I have known for many years that better care should be exercised in the placing and keeping of coins and stamps.

It is one of my favorite preachings to our club members, but the d-d fools are with us always, and I don't know when the supply will be exhausted, - as more are born every minute!

It makes one boil to think of the Dr. Gray coin of Isle of Man coins, - stolen from Dr. Wright while in Utica, and then thrown into the Erie Canal by the thief, - to prevent discovery, - and other doings of that sort without number.

I wrote Mr. Duffield on receipt of your letter, - about photos of North American taken 1781.

If you have not had time to make and forward, perhaps sending the coin itself will be satisfactory to him, - as he wanted me to do that, - so he could photo, -

Your photos of new coins are always so neat, - I assumed you had best of facilities.

Again thanking you, I am Very Sincerely
John F. Jones.

April 10, 1937

Mr. John F. Jones,
1113 N. Main St.,
Jamestown, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Jones:

We photographed the North American token yesterday and I have sent it on to Duffield. I trust the delay has not bothered anyone as I had to do this partly special and could not work it in with much of anything else, I will have to make you a charge of \$1.50.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks
encl.

*

1113 N. Main St.

Jamestown, NY - Apr. 14th 1937.

Mr. Howland Wood,

Broadway + 156th St. - N.Y. City.

My Dear Mr. Wood:

Yours of 10th at hand.

Many thanks for all the trouble caused, and especially sending photo to Mr. Duffield.

Yes, they should reach him in ample time for May issue, - which he desired.

I enclose P.O. order for \$1.50 in payment, + stamps for return receipt.

Will be pleased to reciprocate, at any time, I can be of service.

With kind regards

Very Sincerely

John F. Jones.